

§ 502.252

46 CFR Ch. IV (10–1–99 Edition)

§ 502.252 **Reparation statements.**

When the Commission finds that reparation is due, but that the amount cannot be ascertained upon the record before it, the complainant shall immediately prepare a statement in accordance with the approved reparation statement in Exhibit No. 1 to this subpart, showing details of the shipments on which reparation is claimed. This statement shall not include any shipments not covered by the findings of the Commission. Complainant shall forward the statement, together with the paid freight bills on the shipments, or true copies thereof, to the respondent or other person who collected the charges for checking and certification as to accuracy. Statements so prepared and certified shall be filed with the Commission for consideration in determining the amount of reparation due. Disputes concerning the accuracy of amounts may be assigned for conference by the Commission, or in its discretion referred for further hearing. [Rule 252.]

§ 502.253 **Interest in reparation proceedings.**

Except as to applications for refund or waiver of freight charges under § 502.271 and claims which are settled by agreement of the parties, and absent fraud or misconduct of a party, interest granted on awards of reparation in complaint proceedings instituted under the Shipping Act of 1984 will accrue from the date of injury to the date specified in the Commission order awarding reparation. Compounding will be daily from the date of injury to the date specified in the Commission order awarding reparation. Normally, the date specified within which payment must be made will be fifteen (15) days subsequent to the date of service of the Commission order. Interest shall be computed on the basis of the average monthly secondary market rate on six-month U.S. Treasury bills commencing with the rate for the month that the injury occurred and concluding with the latest available monthly U.S. Treasury bill rate at the date of the Commission order awarding reparation. The monthly secondary market rates on six-month U.S. Treasury bills for the reparation period will be summed

up and divided by the number of months for which interest rates are available in the reparation period to determine the average interest rate applicable during the period. [Rule 253.]

[64 FR 7810, Feb. 17, 1999]

§ 502.254 **Attorney's fees in reparation proceedings.**

(a) *Scope.* The Commission shall, upon petition, award the complainant reasonable attorney's fees directly related to obtaining a reparations award in any complaint proceeding under section 11 of the Shipping Act of 1984. For purposes of this section, "attorney's fees" includes the fair market value of the services of any person permitted to appear and practice before the Commission in accordance with subpart B of this part, and may include compensation for services rendered the complainant in a related proceeding in Federal court that is useful and necessary to the determination of a reparations award in the complaint proceeding.

(b) *Content of petitions.* Petitions for attorney's fees under this section shall specify the number of hours claimed by each person representing the complainant at each identifiable stage of the proceeding, and shall be supported by evidence of the reasonableness of hours claimed and the customary fees charged by attorneys and associated legal representative in the community where the petitioner practices. Requests for additional compensation must be supported by evidence that the customary fees for the hours reasonably expended on the case would result in an unreasonable fee award.

(c) *Filing of petition.* (1) Petitions for attorney's fees shall be filed within 30 days of a final reparation award:

(i) With the presiding officer where the presiding officer's decision awarding reparations became administratively final pursuant to § 502.227(a)(3) and § 502.304(g); or

(ii) With the Commission, if exceptions were filed to, or the Commission reviewed, the presiding officer's reparation award decision pursuant to § 502.227 of this part.

(2) For purposes of this section, a reparation award shall be considered final after a decision disposing of the merits